GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6086
ANSWERED ON:11.04.2017
Price Hike
Mondal Shri Sunil Kumar

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has been successful in controlling price hike of the essential items after almost five months of demonetization;
(b) if so, the reasons why common people are still not able to buy essential items at tender price; and
(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c) : Prices show mixed trends after demonetization with prices of majority of these food items including pulses and vegetables recording a decline. Details are at Annexure.

Rise in the prices of essential food items are due to various factors such as shortfall in production, seasonality, increased transportation costs, supply chain constraints like lack of storage facilities, increase in demand because of rise in population, per capita income and change in food habits. In addition, speculation, cartelization, black-marketing/hoarding also put pressure on prices. Government has taken various measures that have resulted in moderation of prices of essential commodities like pulses and vegetables.

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